



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

8

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/783,412	02/20/2004	Sven Bulow	KLAUS2.004AUS	6340
20995	7590	04/18/2005	EXAMINER	
KNOBBE MARTENS OLSON & BEAR LLP 2040 MAIN STREET FOURTEENTH FLOOR IRVINE, CA 92614			JOHNSON, JERROLD D	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			3728	

DATE MAILED: 04/18/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/783,412

Applicant(s)

BULOW, SVEN

Examiner

Jerrold Johnson

Art Unit

3728

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 07 October 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-16 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-16 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Information Disclosure Statement

The listing of references in the specification is not a proper information disclosure statement. 37 CFR 1.98(b) requires a list of all patents, publications, or other information submitted for consideration by the Office, and MPEP § 609 A(1) states, "the list may not be incorporated into the specification but must be submitted in a separate paper."

Although the references have not been cited by the examiner on form PTO-892, they have been considered.

Specification

The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities: German language sections remain in the application.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

1. Claims 1-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Pay US 5,710,043.

Re claim 1, Pay discloses a modular array arrangement in Figs. 1 and 2 comprising:
a carrier 12; and

at least one insert 24 for attachment to said carrier, said at least one insert having a first connecting means (male threads) arranged on or formed in at least one of the external walls of said at least one insert, said carrier having at least one location for receiving one of said at least one insert and comprising a second connecting means (female threads), said second connecting means being arranged in, adjacent to, or formed by said at least one location, said first connecting means unambiguously matching with said second connecting means, said unambiguously matching permitting to align said at least one insert in a predetermined orientation in or on said carrier, and said insert having at least one section defined for receiving a sample, said at least one section being provided with or adapted for receiving operational means.

Re claim 2, said first connecting means is essentially or partially complementary to said second connecting means.

Re claim 3, said first connecting means or said second connecting means have an asymmetric structure or form. Although the individual thread shape is a "V" and is generally symmetrical in form, the plurality of threads disclosed are not symmetrical. Threads are disposed in a helical arrangement where there is a starting thread not of

Art Unit: 3728

full height, and an ending thread not of full height. The plurality of threads of Pay are not symmetrical *about any axis or plane*.

Re claim 4, said first connecting means or said second connecting means is adapted to serve as a grip. External threads form a gripping surface.

Re claim 5, said insert is releasably or non-releasably connected to said carrier upon attachment to said carrier.

Re claim 6, wherein an insert is provided with one or more additional first connecting means or an insert receiving location is provided with one or more additional second connecting means.

Re claim 7, said operational means being selected from the group consisting of compounds attached to the insert surface, media, reagents, solvents, catalysts, coatings, and beads.

Re claims 8-14, note the rejection of claims 1-7. Additionally, the connecting means of Pay is a projection element (the male threads).

Re claims 15-16, the methods are inherently disclosed by Pay.

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Bora 2001/0005491 discloses an arrangement where it is unclear if the shape of the projecting elements could be construed as being symmetrical or not. This is particularly true as the claims are not clear as to what plane the asymmetry is being established. It is believed that the projecting elements would be symmetrical about some planes, but not about other planes.

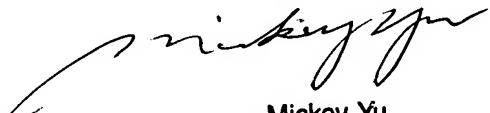
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jerrold Johnson whose telephone number is 571-272-7141. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:30 to 6:00 M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mickey Yu can be reached on 571-272-4562. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Art Unit: 3728

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

JDJ



Mickey Yu
Supervisory Patent Examiner
Group 3700